

Abstract—The purpose of this study was to determine if there were differences in the prevalence of musculoskeletal disorders between two groups of female nurses working in different departments of a tertiary care hospital. The prevalence of musculoskeletal disorders was determined by means of a self-administered questionnaire among 100 female nurses who worked in the intensive care unit (ICU) and 100 female nurses who worked in the medical-surgical department. The prevalence of musculoskeletal disorders was significantly higher in the ICU group than in the medical-surgical group ($p < .001$). The prevalence of musculoskeletal disorders was also significantly higher in the ICU group than in the medical-surgical group for each of the following variables: age ($p = .006$), years of experience ($p = .007$), duration of shift work ($p = .008$), type of shift work ($p = .009$), and frequency of lifting or carrying heavy objects ($p = .010$). These findings suggest that the prevalence of musculoskeletal disorders is higher in the ICU group than in the medical-surgical group, and that the prevalence of musculoskeletal disorders is also higher in the ICU group than in the medical-surgical group for each of the following variables: age, years of experience, duration of shift work, type of shift work, and frequency of lifting or carrying heavy objects.

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219	SAME	12/7/64	SG
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